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First-Ever Federal Pre-Budget Web Consultations Conclude Successfully

On behalf of Minister of Finance James M. Flaherty, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance Diane Ablonczy today thanked the thousands of Canadians who responded to the invitation to offer on-line comments on the upcoming budget. The initiative, which is the first Web-based consultations with the public by a federal Minister of Finance, concluded on April 20.

"Over 5,600 Canadians took the time to send the Minister their comments," Mrs. Ablonczy said. "These will be a great help in shaping the budget measures because they provide real insights into the hopes and concerns of Canadians from all provinces and territories."

Explaining how the process worked and what the next steps will be, she said "every submission has been read by staff, and the suggestions and comments itemized in a summary report for the Minister. These will be factored into the issues being considered for the upcoming budget and future budgets."

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